



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 08203.0030.01000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Frank BONADIO et al. ) Group Art Unit: Unknown  
)  
Application No.: 10/600,812 ) Examiner: Unknown  
)  
Filed: June 20, 2003 )  
)  
For: APPARATUS FOR USE IN )  
SURGERY AND A VALVE )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please further amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins at page 2 of this Amendment.

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.

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